
ICANN Specific Reviews - Second Security, Stability and Resiliency of the DNS Review (SSR2) Recommendations 3.2-3.3 - Implementation Documentation

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SSR2 Final Report <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/ssr2-review-team-final-report-25jan21-en.pdf>

Board resolution on SSR2 Final Report <https://www.icann.org/resources/board-material/resolutions-2021-07-22-en#2.a>

May 2022 Board resolution on a set of pending SSR2 Recommendations:
<https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/ssr2-scorecard-01may22-en.pdf>

November 2022 Board resolution on a set of pending SSR2 Recommendations:
<https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/scorecard-ssr2-pending-recs-board-action-16nov22-en.pdf>

- Recommendation submitted: January 2021
- Recommendation approved: November 2022
- Implementation completed: N/A

See <https://community.icann.org/display/SSR/Implementation> for more information on SSR2 implementation.

SSR2 Recommendation 3.2

The ICANN Board and ICANN org should ensure specific budget items relating to ICANN org's performance of SSR related functions are linked to specific ICANN Strategic Plan goals and objectives. ICANN org should implement those mechanisms through a consistent, detailed, annual budgeting and reporting process.

SSR2 Recommendation 3.3

The ICANN Board and ICANN org should create, publish, and request public comment on detailed reports regarding the costs and SSR-related budgeting as part of the strategic planning cycle.

Board Action on SSR2 Recommendations 3.2-3.3

[...] The Board acknowledges the existing transparency around the organization's budget, and public comment framework about the strategic and operating planning cycle. The Board agrees with the benefit of having periodic communication on SSR activities, including seeking public comments, and notes that this is already performed as part of the current annual planning process. The Board encourages ICANN org to continue enhancing its periodic communication on SSR activities as part of its work and operations. Furthermore, the Board fully advocates the transparency of the organization's activities that enhance the security, stability and resiliency of the DNS. In the interest of such transparency, ICANN org's Operating and Financial Plans for FY22-26 (Five-Year) and FY22 (One-Year), includes "Appendix C: ICANN Security, Stability, and Resiliency (SSR) of the Unique Internet Identifiers". As SSR-related functions and their

budget are part of the overall ICANN org Strategic and Operating Plan cycles, Recommendations 3.2 and 3.3 can be considered as fully implemented.

Final Implementation Report

ICANN's Planning Process cycle has a threefold approach encompassing a *Strategic Plan*, a *Five-Year Operating Plan*, and an *Annual Operating Plan & Budget*. The cycle culminates with *Achievement & Progress Reporting*.

“[Strengthen the security of the Domain Name System \(DNS\) and the DNS Root Server System](#)” is one of the five objectives of the ICANN Strategic Plan Fiscal Years 2021-2025. To reach this strategic objective, ICANN has four goals and related sets of actions to ensure and support the security, stability, resilience and robustness of the DNS.

The [ICANN five-year Financial and Operating Plan and the yearly Operating Plan](#) include the operating plans whereby the org plans for achievement of the Strategic Plan. Security, Stability and Resiliency elements are spread across the operating initiatives and functional activities that make the Operating Plan. Furthermore, appendix B of the Plan contains a map that displays each of the operating initiatives that is cross-referenced against the “Security” strategic objectives and goals identified in the Strategic Plan. Finally, Appendix D of the Plan is dedicated to “ICANN Security, Stability and Resiliency of the Internet Unique Identifiers” and includes specific reference to the funding of SSR related activities.

ICANN yearly Operating plans and Budgets (see the Fiscal Year 2023 plans at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/budget-fy23-2022-en.pdf>) include detailed budget figures for functional activities relating to SSR as well as background information that support the financial tables.

[Quarterly unaudited and yearly audited accounts](#) contain macro figures for operating expenses.

Therefore, the current Strategic and Operating Plan framework and structure meet the Recommendation 3.2 requirement for SSR related functions linked to Strategic Plan objectives and goals and operating initiatives as described in the Operating Plan, and as summarized in the [Annual Report](#) that ICANN has regularly been publishing at the end of each Fiscal Year.

Stakeholder consultation and input are critical and feed into every aspect of the planning process. Extensive public consultation activities are in place with regard to the Five Year Operating & Financial Plan and Annual Operating Plan and Budget, and the Five Year Strategic Plan. The [last comment round on the ICANN Operating Plan and Budget for FY23-27 and Operating Plan FY23](#) closed on 7 February 2022. The [FY23 summary public comment report](#) lists comments relating to security matters separately.

Having a separate public comment on SSR-related matters, their budget and cost may jeopardize the consistency and comprehensiveness of the current operating and budget planning process. It is noted that the current public comment process is sound and well-appreciated by the community that has contributed to refine it over the past decade. Furthermore, the current process allows any stakeholder to provide input on any element of those plans, including any security, stability and resilience activities, their budget and cost.

Therefore, such a process meets the requirements of recommendation 3.3 in an appropriate manner.

Rationale

As noted in the Board action on SSR2 Recommendations 3.2 and 3.3, these recommendations can be considered as fully implemented given that SSR-related functions, their budget and costs are part of the overall ICANN org Strategic and Operating Plan cycles.

To further enhance transparency and completeness of information on certain initiatives and activities, the Plans contain Appendices that provide an overview of some of them. Appendix B of the Plan contains a map that displays each of the operating initiatives that are cross-referenced against the strategic objectives and goals identified in the Strategic Plan. Therefore this appendix has this information for the “Security” strategic objective.

Timeline

Expected implementation date: N/A

Final implementation date: N/A

Milestones

Yearly publication of ICANN five-year Operating Plan and Budget, and one-year Operating Plan and Budget.